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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVERNING DAILY

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MYSURU Friday 14th August 2020
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MCC tax defaulters WARNED

Pay up in 30 days or property will be attached

Mysuru, Aug.14 (RK&DM)- In a warning to tax defaulters, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde has directed the officials to attach properties of defaulters who fail to pay up their 2019-20 property tax dues in a month.

Speaking at a meeting held at MCC Zonal Office-3 in Sharadadevinagar here yesterday, Hegde said that it has been discovered that a good number of property owners have failed to remit taxes, denting the MCC's revenue collection.

Asking the officials to issue a notice to defaulters to pay up tax in a month, he said that the public must be sensitised on payment of property tax through a public address system in every ward. Also they must carry a digital payment handset along with them to collect tax from those ready to pay online, he said.

(See TAX on page 7)

Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde chairing a meeting at MCC Zonal Office-3 yesterday.

Mysuru COVID-19 UPDATE

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	522
Total positive cases	:	8,983
Discharges yesterday	:	637
Total discharges	:	5,418
Deaths yesterday	:	12
Total deaths	:	274
Total active cases	:	3,297

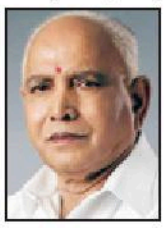
Holiday

*Our offices will remain closed tomorrow on account of **Independence Day**. Hence, there will be no issue of **Star of Mysore** dated **Aug. 15, 2020.***

— Management

KRS Dam Full

CM likely to offer 'bagina' on Aug.18



Yediyurappa

Mysuru, Aug.14 (RK&DM)- With the KRS Dam in Srirangapatna taluk of Mandya district full, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa who has just recovered from COVID-19, is likely to offer the customary 'bagina' to River Cauvery at KRS Reservoir on Aug.18.

Today, the water-level at the Dam stood at 124.05 ft as against the maximum level of 124.80 ft, with inflow of 16,000 cusecs and outflow of 2,500 cusecs. Sources said that the Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Ltd (CNNL) has informed the CM's Office about the same and is awaiting the date from the CMO. It is most likely that the Chief Minister may offer 'bagina' on Aug.18, sources added.

Chief Minister Yediyurappa has got the chance to offer 'bagina' to the Dam five times including this year. The previous ones were in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2019.

Last year, KRS Reservoir created a record of sorts by maintaining the maximum water level of 124.80 ft for 98 successive days. There is no previous records to show that the Dam was full for so many days, ever since its construction was completed in 1933. Another interesting fact is that the Dam was full much earlier than usual, on July 20, 2018. The Dam then had become full in July itself after a gap of nearly 20 years.

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 14th August 2020

Digital celebration of Janmashtami Festival at ISKCON Mysuru

Mysuru, Aug.14- Due to the ongoing pandemic situation, ISKCON at Jayanagar had an inhouse celebration of Janmashtami festival without public participation on Aug. 12.

Throughout the day, Lord Krishna was worshipped through different offerings and aratis by the missionary devotees.

The celebrations began by performing *Mangalarati* at 4.30 am followed by doing *Sodashopachara Puja*, an offering of 16 ingredients for the pleasure of Lord Krishna. The deities of Sri Krishna Balarama were bedecked with special ornaments and *Shringara Arati* was performed at 7.15 am followed by *Guru Puja* to Srila Prabhupada.

In the night at 10.15 pm, a grand *abhisheka* to Sri Krishna Balarama was performed followed by *Maha Mangalarati* at 12 midnight. The event was telecast live through ISKCON Mysore's Facebook and Youtube channels.

ISKCON Bengaluru had also organised online celebration of Janmashtami festival through a programme titled *"Swagatam Krishna"*, wherein many eminent personalities and renowned artists participated to share their thoughts and aspirations to spread positivity and optimism.

The Temple Management had urged all the devotees of Lord Krishna to participate in the online celebrations and receive blessings of Lord Krishna, in the comfort and safety of their homes.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

CLASS ACT: ***The recently unveiled National Education Policy (NEP) embodies a brilliant strategy that will not only transform the country's academic system but will also solve one of India's biggest problems. Indeed, the objective behind the NEP has been taking gradual shape over the years. In decades gone by, education for most ended at Class 10, when you took what was called the Matric exam. If you were really studious you might go on to College to get a BA or B.Com degree, and after that maybe even a MA or a Ph.D, a qualification rarer than snowballs in the Sahara. But for the great many, a 'Matric pass' was enough to land a job and start working. And that's when the problem started. Because pretty soon there weren't enough jobs for all the Matric passes. So schooling was extended to Class 11, or what was called Higher Secondary. But Higher Secondary wasn't high enough to stem the overflowing tide of unemployment. So the 10+2 formula was introduced, which lengthened schooling by yet another year.***

So now the government has formulated a New Education Policy which absolutely guarantees an end to joblessness and unemployment. Under the new policy, schooling will be split into four segments or phases, in a formula of 5+3+3+4: Five years of foundational education, three of preparatory, three of middle, and four of secondary schooling. All of this adds up to 15 years. The policy envisages children starting school at age 3, which might be a bit premature, considering most kids at that age aren't fully potty trained. Five years, or even six, is a more practicable school-going age, which means if you pass all your exams along the way, you won't leave school till you're 20, or 21. Then there's the four-year college term — upped from three years previously — so you remain a student till you're 24, or 25. Throw in a couple of post-graduate degrees and before you know it you're past retirement age and are no longer eligible for a job. Unemployment? It'll be NEPped in the bud.

— Jug Suraiya in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

German circus sells jars of lion poop for gardening

Berlin: A German circus that has been closed for months due to the COVID-19 pandemic is making some extra money by selling lion poop.

The Krone Circus said it is selling jars filled with big cat droppings, which officials said can be spread in a home garden to keep pets and wild animals from damaging plants.

The circus said customers can visit the pop-up store during special business hours Monday through Friday, and the jars of lion feces can also be purchased for shipment online.

The circus has erected a large sculpture dubbed "Mr. Poo" outside the business to celebrate the new venture.

Company offers $300 for employees to adopt pet

Texas: A Texas-based company that provides insurance comparison services announced employees are being offered a $300 stipend to adopt pets.

The Zebra, which bills itself as "the nation's leading insurance comparison site," said it has begun offering employees $300 to help cover adoption fees for "welcoming a new cat or dog into their family."

"To the company's knowledge, this is the first policy of its kind to be offered by an employer," the website said.

The company said that employees are also encouraged to take paid time off - "pawternity leave" - to help their new pet settle into their new home.

So far, six employees have claimed the $300 and have taken advantage of their employers offer. For single people, this is helpful. This is also helpful to the local animal shelters.

HEALTH CAPSULE by Bron Smith

Why is it easy to overdose on Brazil nuts?

Brazil nuts contain high levels of selenium, which can have toxic effects in even modest quantities. Just six Brazil nuts contain double the US tolerable upper limit for selenium. Symptoms of selenium toxicity include: Metallic taste in the mouth, garlic odor, hair loss, brittle nails, fatigue, nausea, rash, diarrhea, runnny nose, cough and nerve pain.

** Health Capsules is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature.*

Mysore Varsity to conduct final UG, PG exams in September

Mysuru, Aug. 14(RK) - The University of Mysore (UoM) will conduct the final semester examination of under-graduate (UG) and post-graduate (PG) courses in September.

A total of 1.11 lakh students are pursuing UG and nearly 12,000 students are pursuing PG courses in the Varsity. As many as 35,000 students are in the final semester for UG course and all the Colleges are informed to make arrangements to conduct the examination, said UoM Registrar Prof. R. Shivappa.

There are more than 6,000 students in PG final semester at UoM campus, and PG centres in Hassan, Mandya, Chamarajanagar and other 40 Colleges. The Registrar said all precautionary measures will be taken to ensure the safety of students.

UoM Syndicate has decided to conduct an examination and the preparations are going on. The time-table will be announced in the UoM website before August 20.

It may be mentioned that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has directed the Varsities to conduct the exam with necessary precautionary measures. A few Varsities have moved the Supreme Court questioning the UGC. The Varsities also submitted petitions against conducting the exams, the Registrar said.

Really...?

- *Peppers and Chillies are members of the Capsicum family.*
- *There are more than 400 types of potato; ranging in size, colour and appearance, and potato provides a rich source of vitamins, minerals and nutrients; these healthy vegetables are particularly high in Vitamin C.*
- *Spinach was first cultivated in Persia several thousand years ago.*
- *Swede was originally named the turnip-rooted cabbage.*
- *Sweet potato can strengthen the immune system and fight against illnesses and health diseases such as cancers.*
- *Sweet potato is an ideal choice for babies and kids as it is sweet, delicious and extremely healthy.*
- *Cauliflower is a member of the cabbage family and the cruciferous group of vegetables.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Mother (giving a list to her son): Go get me these things from the shop. I need to cook.
Son: Mom, don't you know child labour is a punishable offence?!

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 74.83
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 97.69
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.37
1 Euro	= Rs. 88.24

VOICE OF THE READER

Preventable head-on collisions between two-wheelers

Sir,

The head-on collisions between two-wheelers is frequently being reported in and around Mysuru city. The latest in the series happened on July 14 this year when a scooter and bike collided head-on near Ayarahalli and one person succumbed to serious injuries *(SOM* dated July 16). A similar accident resulted in a rider's death on June 22 this year when two bikes collided on New Kantharaja Urs Road near the Railway Underbridge in K.G. Koppal *(SOM* dated June 24). The riders of two bikes were killed, and a pillion sustained serious injuries in a ghastly accident on H. D. Kote-Hunsur Road on Mar.5, 2020.

Before this, in the Dattagalli area, two riders were killed, and one person seriously injured when two bikes collided head-on on Feb.16 this year. Earlier to these accidents, in December 2019, three people died in another head-on collision when a bike and a scooter collided head-on near MC Hundi on T. Narasipur Road *(SOM* dated Dec. 15, 2019).

These deaths caused by head-on collisions need introspection to avoid such preventable accidents and fatalities in the future. In many such accidents, riders could have survived if they were with the helmet on their heads.

Two-wheeler riders, who are not in the habit of wearing helmets, should learn a lesson from these accidents and start wearing it for their own safety and not to fill agony in their family members if they happen to die in road accidents.

Driving in a correct lane and not on the wrong side of the road avoids head-on collisions. Over-speeding is also a reason for deaths in such accidents. It is a pity that even after several such accidents are frequently happening in a short span, many two-wheeler riders are not taking this issue seriously and also not showing any sign towards road safety.

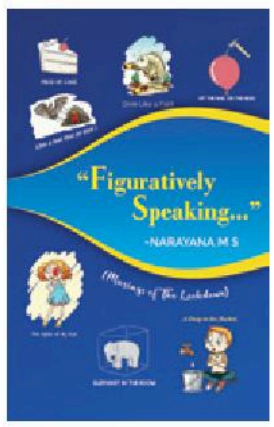
—Dr. S. V. N. Vijayendra, Member, City Traffic Advisory Committee

Mysuru

8.8.2020

Book launch on Sunday

Mysuru, Aug.14- A book titled *"Figuratively Speaking…" (Musings of the Lockdown)* written by M.S. Narayana and published by Samskruthi Publishing House, Mysuru, will be launched on Aug.16 (Sunday) at 11 am at an event to be held at Chinmaya Mission Centre, 6th Main, Gokulam 3rd Stage.



Swami Adityananda Saraswathi, Acharya, Chinmaya Mission, Mandya, will be releasing the paperback edition as well as the e-book version on the occasion. P. Vishveshwar Rau, Senior Divisional Manager, LIC of India, Mysore Division, will preside.

Dr. Vijay Sheshadri, Professor and Director, PG Centre, Mandya and Dr. B.V. Narasimham, Retd. Professor, PES College of Engineering, Mandya, will be the guests of honour.

Due to Corona pandemic, the book launch function with a small gathering will be streamed live on social media. The paperback edition will be available for sale at major bookstores in city after the launch. The e-book will also be available on Google Play and Amazon Kindle. *"Figuratively Speaking…"* shall be made available at book stores of Bengaluru in a couple of days.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Disruption in water supply tomorrow

Owning to emergency electrical works being taken up tomorrow, there will be disruption in the supply of drinking water in MCC Ward Nos. 44 to 51 (Janata Nagar, Sharadadevi Nagar, Dattagalli 3rd Stage, Kuvempunagar, Jayanagar, Lakshmipuram, Sunnadakeri and Agrahara) and Ward Nos. 54 to 65 (Gundurao Nagar, Chamundipuram, Krishnamurthy puram, Kuvempu nagar CITB, Ramakrishnanagar, J.P. Nagar, Aravindanagar, Kuvempunagar M' Block, Ashokapuram, parts of Vidyaranyapuram, Vishweshwaranagar, Srirampura and surrounding places).

Admission to diploma courses

Government CPC Polytechnic has invited applications from students who have passed SSLC for admission to first year diploma courses for the year 2020-21. Filled in applications can be submitted online or at CPC Polytechnic before Aug. 22. For details, visit https://dtetech.karnataka.gov.in/kartechnical/ or www.cetonline.karnataka.gov.in/kea/

New PU Colleges

The Department of Pre-University Education (DPUE) has invited applications from eligible private institutions and Trusts to open new private unaided PU Colleges, for the year 2020-21. Application forms can be uploaded on www.puc.kar.nic.in before Aug. 21. Private institutions and trusts, which have applied in the year 2019-20, but rejected are not eligible to apply. Letter of intent mentioning the details of all facilities along with Form 4 should be submitted to the Directorate through the Office of Deputy Director. For details, visit www.puc.kar.nic.in.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	124.05 ft
Yesterday	123.45 ft
Inflow	16,000 cusecs
Outflow	2,500 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Today	2,283.02 ft
Inflow	16,112 cusecs
Outflow	15,625 cusecs

Harangi Level

(Maximum : 2,859.00 feet)

Yesterday	2,857.23 ft
Inflow	5,733 cusecs
Outflow	2,418 cusecs

Demands from Congress Seva Dal

Mysuru, Aug.14 (PM&DM)- Stating that the Congress Seva Dal plays a key role in boosting the party's poll prospects, District Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar appealed the party leadership to give important positions to Seva Dal activists, if the party comes to power.

He was speaking at the day-long Seva Dal workshop organised under the aegis of District Congress at Congress Bhavan near City Railway Station here on Wednesday.

Opining that the Seva Dal is like a mother to the party, Dr. Vijaykumar said that the newly appointed KPCC President D.K. Shivakumar has given prominence for taking the Seva Dal along with the party. Maintaining that Opposition Leader and former Chief Minister Siddharamaiah is a model to those who want ideological politics, he regretted that, however, the society has not been supporting politicians who are working for the welfare of the people.

City Congress President R. Murthy said that the Seva Dal is conducting training workshops across the State and it is happy to note that the first such workshop was held in Mysuru. He further said that the workshop is all the more significant that it has happened on the birthday of former Chief Minister Siddharamaiah, who hails from Mysuru.

Seva Dal State President Pyari Jaan, who inaugurated the Workshop, said that the commitment, dedication and determination of party workers is crucial for the growth of any political party. Maintaining that the Congress strongly opposes politics based on religion, caste and creed, he said that the Seva Dal has committed itself for the unity and integrity of the nation.

Marking the event, a mass prayer under the guidance of Christian Pastors was held. Prayer was held for the nation to become free of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic and also for the speedy recovery of Opposition Leader Siddharamaiah, who has been hospitalised after testing positive for the deadly virus.

Seva Dal Office-bearers Gopalgowda, Prakash Kumar, Lalitha, Shankaramurthy, Shivashankar, Rajasekhar, Geetha, Shivaprasad and others were present.

Two commit suicide in city

Mysuru, Aug. 14 (MK&KS)- Two persons have committed suicide in separate incidents in Vidyaranyapuram Police limits in city.

In the first incident, a 36-year-old woman, said to be depressed over her husband's addiction to liquor, commit suicide by hanging self at her house in city on Wednesday.

The deceased is N. Hemavathi, wife of Chandrashekar and a resident of Vidyaranyapuram 'C' Block in city.

According to the Police, Hemavathi was married to Chandrashekar 11 years ago and Chandrashekar, who was addicted to liquor used to come home drunk every day and harass Hemavathi daily. Depressed over this, Hemavathi took the extreme step, the Police added.

In the second incident, a 52-year-old man, who was suffering from Hernia since many days, committed suicide by hanging self at his residence, according to the Police.

The deceased is Manjunathaswamy, a resident of J.P. Nagar 3rd Cross in city. Depressed over his ill health, Manjunathaswamy is said to have committed suicide.

Cases have been registered at Vidyaranyapuram Police Station.

Elderly man jumps into Kapila River

Nanjangud, Aug. 14 (RS&KS)- A 67-year-old man committed suicide by jumping into Kapila River near D. Devaraj Urs Bridge in Nanjangud.

The deceased is Chandrashekar, a former employee of Sri Srikanteshwara Temple and a resident of R.P. Road here. It is learnt that Chandrashekar was suffering from Asthma and depressed over this he is said to have taken the extreme step.

Circle Inspector Lakshmikanth Talawar, Rural Sub-Inspector Satish and staff visited the spot. The body was fished out by Fire and Emergency Service personnel and was shifted to the General Hospital for post-mortem.

Chandrashekar's son Kantharaju has lodged a complaint at Nanjangud Rural Police Station.

Woman goes missing from Nanjangud

Geetha

Nanjangud, Aug. 14 (KS)- A 25-year-old woman, who left her mother's house at Deviramanahalli Hundi in Nanjangud taluk on Aug. 6 at about 7 am, without informing anyone, has since gone missing.

The missing woman is Geetha, wife of Ravi, and a resident of Kumbarakoppal in Mysuru.

Geetha had come to her mother's house on Aug. 5 at about 7 pm and had stayed there overnight but left the house the next day morning without informing anyone.

Geetha is 4.4 ft. tall, fair complexioned, round faced, normal built, speaks Kannada and was wearing a pink coloured top, blue pant and a grey coloured sweater at the time of going missing.

Those having any information about the missing woman may contact Nanjangud Rural Police Station on Ph: 08221-226259 or Circle Office: 08221-226226, according to a press release.

Snake rescued from house at J.P. Nagar

Mysuru, Aug. 14 (RK&KS)- An incident of a snake taking shelter at the house of a person in Home Quarantine and later being rescued has been reported from J.P. Nagar on Wednesday.

The snake entered the house in the morning and the shocked residents began to scream for help.

Soon, city's well known snake rescuer and wildlife conservationist Snake Shyam, who rushed to the house rescued the snake much to the relief of the residents.

Rider killed as truck rams into bike

Mysuru, Aug. 14 (MK&KS)- A two-wheeler rider was killed on the spot when a truck rammed into his bike on Mysuru-Nanjangud Road on Wednesday evening.

The deceased is Nanjappa (40), a resident of Kadakola. According to Police, Nanjappa was proceeding towards Nanjangud from Mysuru on his bike when a speeding truck rammed into his bike from behind, killing him (Nanjappa) on the spot.

Film City to come up at Hessarghatta near Bengaluru

Bengaluru, Aug. 14 (KMS& BCT)- The State Government will set up a mega Film City on 150-acre land at Hessarghatta on the outskirts of Bengaluru and the process will be expedited, said Deputy Chief Minister Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan. With the announcement, the Government has gone back to the original location that the late CM Ramakrishna Hegde had suggested.

In the 1980s, Hegde Government had first announced Film City. This announcement was repeated in 2004 when S.M. Krishna was CM. In 2017, during the reign of Siddharamaiah, the Film City was sanctioned to Himmavu in Varuna Constituency and when H.D. Kumaraswamy (JD-S-Congress) was the CM, the Film City was proposed to be built at Ramanagara. After Yediyurappa took over as CM, he had proposed to build the Film City inside the Roerich and Devika Rani Estate at Tataguni in Bengaluru.

Now the Government has decided to establish the Film City at Hessarghatta by dropping its earlier plan to set it up at the Roerich and Devika Rani Estate due to environmental concerns.

Dr. Ashwathnarayan made this announcement at a meeting of a few representatives from the Kannada film industry, led by Shivrajkumar, producer Srikanth and 'KGF' co-producer Karthik. The delegation had met the Dy.CM to apprise him of the problems faced by the industry amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Deputy CM Dr. C.N. Ashwathnarayan interacting with actor Shivrajkumar in Bengaluru yesterday.

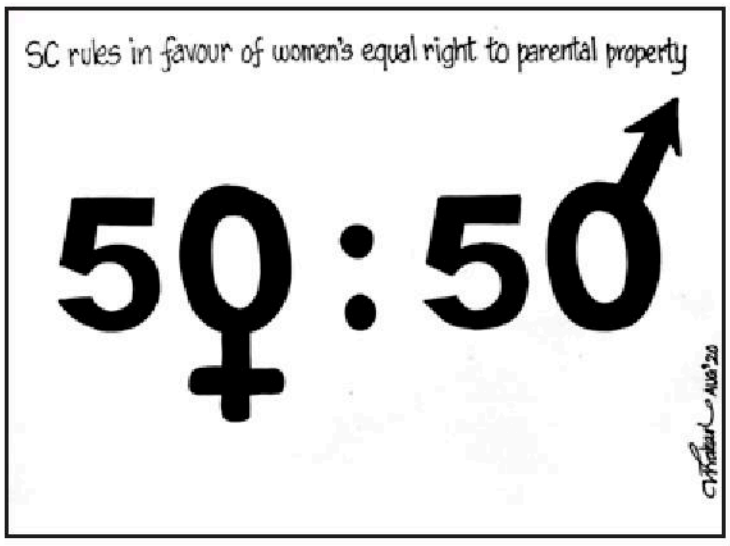
"There are some 450 acres of land, of which the Animal Husbandry Department has been asked to hand over 150 acres for the Film City, which will provide infrastructure for quality cinema," Dr. Ashwathnarayan told the delegation. He said the Government intends to build a Film City that is a cut above others in the world. "It will have all the facilities required to produce a film, including an animation centre," he added.

Issues like concessions for movie theatres, streamlining GST for film producers and a dedicated Film Promotion Board were some of the measures Karnataka will take up to revive the ailing Kannada film industry.

"Our current cinema policy has expired. A new and a comprehensive policy will be formulated. We are looking at a Kannada Cinema Promotion Board to offer incentives and concessions, set up affordable Janata theatres to revive the Kannada film industry. These reforms will be incorporated into the new policy," Dr. Ashwathnarayan said.

Shivrajkumar also brought up the issue of delays in subsidies for filmmakers and the 40-member limit on shooting crews. The Dy.CM was told that the existing subsidy process was cumbersome and it has to be time-bound. Dr. Ashwathnarayan said he would arrange a meeting of the film industry representatives with Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa next week.

TEASER By N. Prakash



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Over a cup of evening Tea

By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

Our selfish COVID VIPs !

No SOS for we the people

It is a very well-known fact that in our country our leaders have two different sets of rules. One set is exclusively for themselves and their families and the other is for all the people who place them on their pedestals of power and pelf ! That is why we are seeing almost every one of them who has tested COVID positive getting admitted to the plushest suits in the very same private hospitals that they spit at through their speeches and statements. **Of the nearly fifteen of them who have got infected so far in our State, just one of them has chosen to get treated in a Government Hospital.** Is this not shameful hypocrisy?

Our *netas* accuse private hospitals of exploiting the public and impose all kinds of impractical and un-implementable restrictions and guidelines on their functioning, all in the interest of the people. **Without giving them any concessions in taxes, loan interest rates or water and electricity charges, they decide how much private hospitals should charge their patients and how much they should pay their staff. They decide how many beds they should reserve for COVID use under Government Welfare Schemes and how many they can keep for themselves.**

At the slightest whisperings of protest against these unfair stipulations and restrictions, the *netas* with their army of civil service bureaucrats intimidate private hospitals with threats of cancellation of licences, seizure, closure, takeover, disconnection of electricity and water supply and what not. And, all this they do only to distract the attention of the public from their complaints about the poor performance of the Government in managing the pandemic.

The private healthcare sector that actually caters to nearly eighty percent of the health care needs of our nation is projected as the cause for all the ills that afflict health care across the length and breadth of the country. **If this is so why don't our *netas* get themselves treated at Government Hospitals when they fall sick and set a noble example of their faith and trust in a system that they have themselves created? And, why don't their slogan-shouting fans question them about their double standards?**

Keeping our Cops Safe

In the midst of this raging COVID pandemic while all others have a choice in keeping themselves safe, there are a few categories of people who simply have no choice. They necessarily have to expose themselves to a much augmented risk of catching the COVID infection because of the nature of their work. They are our COVID Warriors — the doctors and para-medical personnel, the civic workers, the surveillance and support staff and the Police personnel.

Among all these, if we leave aside the Police personnel, the rest of them cannot keep themselves away from being in the thick of the COVID battle. That is why we are seeing a very high incidence of infection in them and there's simply nothing that anyone can do about it. But when it comes to our Police personnel, I feel that we are exposing a great many of them to a great deal of unnecessary and certainly avoidable risk of picking up the COVID infection.

I see groups of them deployed all over the city to stop and penalise two-wheeler riders who do not wear helmets or motorists who do not wear seat belts. At a time when every close interaction with any one is a potential hazard, the admonition and penalisation of offenders from close quarters is certainly a very risky situation for our cops.

Just to ensure the safety of those who flout personal safety rules, our Traffic Cops are now jeopardising their own safety which is simply not worth it. But they do it very obediently because they have no choice when it comes to following orders that come from above.

So it is the top brass and even the State administration that has to understand the need of keeping them and their families safe by using their services only for the most essential Policing duties.

Guidelines have been given to citizens about how they should ensure their safety on the roads and it is up to them to follow them in their own interests. **So while the COVID threat lasts, it is best to deploy our Traffic Police personnel only to ensure that they only prevent offences like signal jumping and over-speeding that are dangerous to other road users rather than to the offenders themselves.**

Of fevers and fever medicines

Ever since our battle against **COVID-19** started, the Government has imposed some very strict restrictions on the over-the-counter sale of all drugs that are used to treat ordinary fevers and aches and pains. This it has done with the good intention of monitoring the presence of fevers among the population which could be due to the **COVID-19** infection too.

Now people need a doctor's prescription to buy these medicines and all the doctors who prescribe them have to send a daily online report giving the details of the patients to whom they have prescribed the drugs.

This arrangement has itself created some peculiar difficulties for the people at large. For their simple day-to-day problems, which if left unaddressed can make their life miserable, people do need some simple remedies. But now they are unable to buy these medicines from the chemists and visiting a hospital or even a doctor's clinic to get them is itself quite difficult as doctors themselves advise them to avoid such visits due to the risk of picking up the COVOD-19 infection.

This difficulty has in fact spawned a brisk black market for fever and pain relief drugs with them becoming secretly available in many petty shops along with people's daily fixes like beedies, cigarettes and the now banned but easily available gutka too! The Government has to step in here and give relief to the people by relaxing these new restrictions in respect of a few commonly used medications or making it sufficient for the chemists to only retain photocopies of the patients' **Aadhaar** cards with their contact numbers on them before dispensing the drugs.

e-mail:
kjnmysore@rediffmail.com

Mandakalli Airport to be developed

Plans for Boeing 737 and Airbus A320 to land in City Airport

By S.T. Ravikumar

Mysuru, Aug. 14- While a proposal has been floated to establish a new International Airport near Srirangapatna as a parallel airport to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru, new development works at the Mandakalli Airport in Mysuru have picked up pace to attract more air travellers.

Elaborating on the new development projects, Mysore Airport Director R. Manjunath said that a new Railway Under Bridge will come up on the right side of the Airport building for more accessibility. This under bridge will provide easy access to the Airport and also help evacuate people from the building in case of emergencies. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) has already been prepared and tenders will be floated soon after approvals, he added.

Runway Expansion

On the Airport runway expansion plans where around 300 acres of land near Mandakalli is required to expand the runway to 7,900 feet and 45 metres, Manjunath said that the process to acquire land is already on.

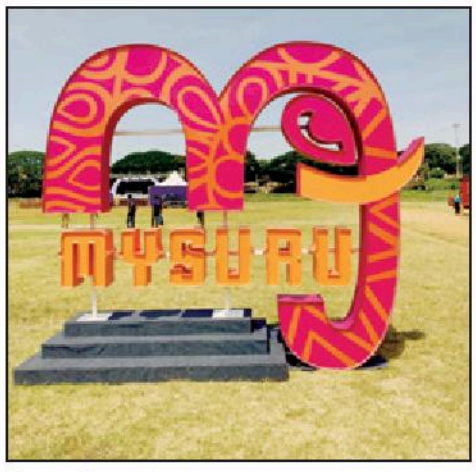
At present the Mandakalli Airport has a single runway of 5,700 feet in length which is only suitable for ATR planes providing short-haul flight operations.

The existing airport is spread over 490 acres and under the expansion project, the length of the runway will be increased to 7,900 feet and 45 metres width that allows jet aircraft such as Boeing 737 and Airbus A320 to land at Mysore Airport.

"We have given thrust to overall development of the Airport and have new fuel tanks, enhanced security and new toilet complex. In future too, development works will be taken up and once the runway is expanded, the face of the existing airport will change to sport a bigger, safe and convenient place to land and depart," Manjunath added.

Selfie point at Mysore Airport

Among the measures taken by Mysuru unit of Airports Authority of India and the Tourism Department in Mysuru is a selfie point that will come up near the flag post at Mysore Airport. The selfie point will be shaped in the form of 'M' and will be in the form of a tusker, representing the Golden Howdah-carrying elephant during the Dasara Vijayadashami procession. Letters 'MYSURU' will be a part of the selfie spot.



The selfie spot has been identified and the replica of the selfie spot too is ready and has been colourfully designed, Mysore Airport Director R. Manjunath told *Star of Mysore*. The Airport is encouraging the heritage concept of Ambari that is a pride of Mysuru, he said.

The selfie spot will be 15 ft in length and 9 ft in height and has been designed by *mysuru.org* and Sowjanya Prabhu from Mankutimma Studios, free of cost. The initiative has been launched with the support of Mysuru Tourism Department Deputy Director H.P. Janardhan, he added. The attractive selfie spot will be inaugurated in a week or two depending on the schedule of Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, he added.

Rapid Antigen Tests continue

Police Personnel line up for Rapid Antigen Test at Jyothinagar this morning. Picture right shows tests being conducted at Dufferin Clock Tower on Wednesday.

Mysuru, Aug. 14 (MTY&KS)- The District Administration and the Department of Health and Family Welfare, in a bid to prevent COVID-19 (Coronavirus) from spreading and also to control the increasing positive cases and related deaths, are continuing the Rapid Antigen Tests at various places in city.

Tests are being conducted at CITB Choultry at Hebbal, Town Hall, Kurubarahalli Primary Health Centre (PHC), Quba Public School at Udayagiri and also near the Police Quarters at Jyothinagar.

A maximum of 150 persons would be tested in a day at each testing centre and the remaining people are being asked to come the ext day to get themselves tested. As many Police personnel would be participating in tomorrow's Independence Day celebration and deployed on security duties, Rapid Antigen Testing is being conducted on Police personnel near the Police Quarters at Jyothinagar.

At CITB Choultry in Hebbal, two counters have been opened and seven technicians are deployed at each counter. These technicians are involved in collection of samples for swab testing, processing it and giving the results. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits are given to the staff involved in collection of swab samples.

22 roadside vendors test positive

Tests were conducted on roadside vendors near Dufferin Clock Tower about two days ago, where 207 vendors were tested for COVID-19 out of which 22 vendors tested positive. Vendors come in contact with hundreds of people daily and more prone on contracting the deadly virus. As the vendors who tested positive did not have the facility to be under home quarantine, they have been shifted to COVID Care Centres and also to COVID Hospital, based on the intensity of their illness.

I-Day celebrations tomorrow

Mysuru, Aug.14 (RK&DM)- Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the city is gearing up for a simple Independence Day celebration tomorrow (Aug.15).

The celebration will begin with District Minister S.T. Somashekar unfurling the National flag at Bannimantap Parade Grounds at 9 am, following which he will release Tri-colur Balloons and deliver the Independence Day address. Mayor Tasneem, MPs Pratap Simha, V. Srinivas Prasad and Sumalatha Ambareesh, ZP President Parimala Shyam, MLAs of the city and District and a host of other people representatives will be present.

As a COVID-19 measure, the entry is restricted and all the participants are required to compulsorily wear face masks and maintain physical distancing.

Meanwhile, the second day rehearsal of Independence Day celebrations was held this morning at Torch Light Parade Grounds in Bannimantap, the venue for tomorrow's Independence Day celebrations.

MCC tax defaulters warned

(Continued from page 1)

Continuing, Gurudatta Hegde said that Revenue officials must prepare a list of tax defaulters as on Mar. 31, 2020 and collect taxes of Rs.10 to 20 lakh every day, following which a report should be submitted on a daily basis. Noting that defaulting big entities such as hotels, commercial complexes, hospitals and government departments must be given 30 days time to clear tax dues, he said that the defaulters must be warned that their properties will be attached if they failed to clear dues in a month.

The Commissioner further said that as the time payment of property tax (2020-21) without penalty has been given till Oct.31, the officials must sensitise the public to pay taxes by that date to avoid penalty.

MCC Zone-3 Zonal officer Satyamurthy said that 15,700 out of the 28,000 property owners in wards coming under the Zonal limits have paid taxes and the officials will soon launch a drive to collect taxes from the remaining property owners.

Loving Remembrance

K.S. Kamalamma
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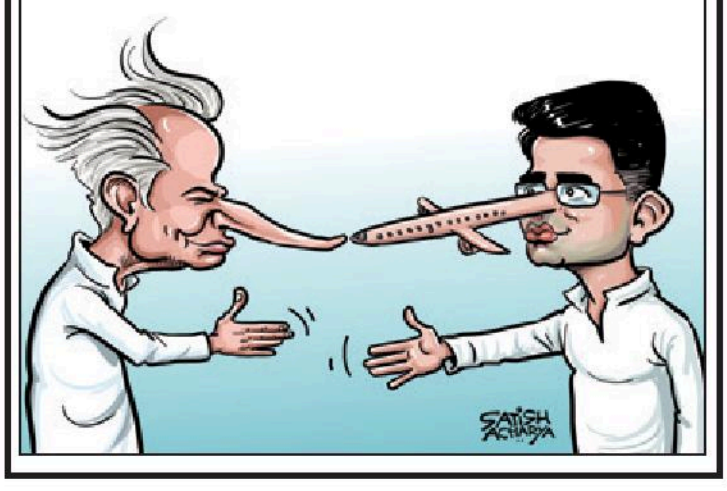
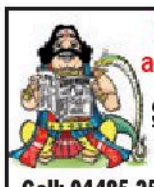
By Satish Acharya





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Director & Head

Mysuru Literature Fest-2020

Weekend virtual sessions from this evening

Mysuru, Aug. 14- With COVID-19 locking down cities, the fourth edition of Mysuru Literature Festival-2020 organised by Mysuru Literary Forum Charitable Trust and Mysuru Book Clubs-2015 will be held virtually on every weekend from Aug. 14 till Sept. 5. This edition has a wide range of authors and speakers as Panellists. Today, *SOM* features Aug. 14 and Aug. 15 Panellists.

Date: **August 14** Time: **7.00 pm**

Panel: *Openings:* **Writers on Their Beginnings**

PANELLISTS

Ganeshananthan

Preeta Samarasan

Soniah Kamal

Tania James

V. V. Ganeshananthan (Minneapolis, United States)

V.V. Ganeshananthan is the author of the novel *Love Marriage*, which was longlisted for the Orange Prize and named one of Washington Post Book World's Best of 2008. She teaches fiction and non-fiction writing in the MFA programme at the University of Minnesota.

Preeta Samarasan (France)

Preeta Samarasan is the author of the novel *Evening Is The Whole Day* (2008), as well as of numerous short stories and essays.

Soniah Kamal (Atlanta, United States)

Soniah Kamal is an award-winning novelist, essayist, public speaker and a lifetime member of JASNA. Her novel, *Unmarriageable: Pride & Prejudice in Pakistan* is featured on PBS Books. Publishers Weekly hails it a 'must read for devout Austenites' and Shelf Awareness has said that 'If Jane Austen lived in modern-day Pakistan, this is the version of *Pride and Prejudice* she might have written.'

Tania James (Washington, D.C. United States)

Tania James is the author of three works of fiction: *The Tusk That Did the Damage, Aerogrammes and Other Stories*, and *Atlas of Unknowns. Tusk* was named a Best Book of 2015 by The San Francisco Chronicle, The Guardian, and NPR, and shortlisted for the International Dylan Thomas Prize.

Date: **August 15** Time: **8.00 pm**

Panel: *Openings:* **Writing about Place**

PANELLISTS

Mathangi Subramanian

Rohini Mohan

Andaleeb Wajid

Writers Andaleeb Wajid and Mathangi Subramanian write across genre, time, and audience, but their work has one thing in common: it is all set in Bengaluru. In this panel moderated by Bengaluru-based journalist Rohini Mohan, Wajid and Subramanian discuss the joys and challenges of writing about place.

Mathangi Subramanian (Denver, United States)

Mathangi Subramanian is an Indian American writer and educator who believes stories have the power to change the world. Her novel *A People's History of Heaven* was a finalist for the LAMBDA literary award and PFC-Valley of Words Prize, was longlisted for the PEN/Faulkner and the Centre for Fiction First Novel Award, and was named a Skipping Stones Honor Book.

Rohini Mohan (Bengaluru, India)

Rohini Mohan is a journalist writing on politics, environment and human rights in South Asia. She is the author of the award-winning nonfiction book, *The Seasons of Trouble* (2014), set in post-war Sri Lanka, and *Mission Cycle*, a children's book set in Kashmir. In 2019, she won the Chameli Devi Award for Outstanding Women Mediapersons.

Andaleeb Wajid (Bengaluru, India)

Andaleeb Wajid is a hybrid author having published 25 novels in the past 10 years. She writes in genres like romance, horror, and young adult. Her novels, *House of Screams* and *The Tamanna Trilogy* have been optioned for screen in 2020.

NOTE: Register at: **http://www.mysuruliteraturefestival.com/registration/**

Instructions will be sent to registered e-mail address 24 hours before each panel starts, and a reminder 1 hour before it starts.

Watch on YouTube at: **https://m.youtube.com/channel/UC5H93tCm_27YSlSmCKTzYBQ?feature=applinks**

Follow on - *Facebook:* **Mysuru Literature Festival** ● *Instagram:* **mysurulitfest** ● *Twitter:* **@mysurulitfest** ● *Questions? e-mail:* **mysurulitfest2020@gmail.com**

JSS AHER holds Online Entrepreneurship Dev. Programme

Mysuru, Aug. 14- A 10-day Online Entrepreneurship Development programme was organised by SPARKLE CINE, the innovation and entrepreneurship arm of JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research (JSS AHER), sponsored by Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Karnataka, in association with Technical Consultancy Services of Karnataka (TECSOK) and Department of Health System Management Studies of JSS AHER.

The programme which began on Aug. 1 was formally inaugurated with the online presence of D.K. Lingaraju, Joint Director of District Industries Centre (DIC), Jagadeesh, Additional Director, Department of Industries and Commerce and CEO of TECSOK, Bengaluru, Dr. B. Suresh, Pro-Chancellor of JSS AHER, Dr. Surinder Singh, Vice-Chancellor of JSS AHER, Dr. (Col.) M. Dayananda, Director of JSS Hospital, Dr. B. Manjunatha, Registrar and Dr. P.A. Kushalappa, Director (Academics), JSS AHER.

This unique event utilised the online teaching-learning platform to develop and support the entrepreneurial aptitude and efforts of the students studying MBA. This is one of the first initiatives from the Department of Industries and Commerce to reach out to interested candidates who aspire to pursue entrepreneurship through an online model.

In all, 45 participants took part in the event. The innovative approach of online group activity and peer interaction for mentored as well as self-motivated learning was adopted. The programme had resource persons with industry, academic as well as entrepreneurial backgrounds, from various parts of Karnataka addressing the participants.

It motivated the participants to develop entrepreneurial abilities and to prepare them to explore the opportunities for successful business endeavors. It aimed to provide focused training with case studies as examples to develop a critical market analytical skill that opens new arenas for business efforts.

The programme concluded on Aug.10 with V.S. Honnamane, Additional Director, Department of Industries and Commerce, interacting with the participants along with Jagadeesh, Additional Director, Department of Industries who enumerated on the various schemes of Government of Karnataka that is available for support of business ventures.

Honnamane appreciated the collaborative efforts of the organising team in imparting knowledge safely during the challenging times of COVID and applauded the efforts of the officers from the Department of Industries and Commerce.

Ruby Silvia from TECSOK, Dr. H.K. Mamatha, Coordinator from the Department of Health System Management Studies and Dr.S. Prashanth, Assistant Director (Academics) of JSS AHER, jointly coordinated the programme.

Bharachukki Falls re-opens for tourists from today

Kollegal, Aug.14 - Following Chamarajanagar Deputy Commissioner Dr. M.R. Ravi's permission for entry of tourists to the famous Bharachukki Falls in Kollegal taluk along Chamarajanagar-Mandya border, the popular tourist spot has re-opened for public from today.

The Waterfalls had been closed for tourists for nearly five months due to the outbreak of the deadly COVID-19 pandemic. But due to lockdown relaxations and the Government's decision to gradually open up the tourism sector, Chamarajanagar DC issued an order a couple of days ago permitting re-opening of the Falls, which is now in full glory, thanks to copious rainfall and water release from Dams.

The Falls, which is now giving a magnificent sight because of cascading waters, will be open for the visitors from 9 am to 5 pm on all days. However, tourists have to maintain COVID-19 regulations such as wearing of face masks, use of hand sanitisers, maintenance of physical distancing and undergoing thermal screening.

Entry of tourists has been allowed only from a safe distance from the Falls as a security and safety measure. CCTVs have been installed at vantage points at the entrance of the Falls. Also, consumption of tobacco products such as cigarettes, beedis, paan, gutka etc. and alcohol has been banned. The visitors are also cautioned against smoking and spitting.

Besides, children aged below ten years, pregnant women and elderly persons aged over 65 years are not allowed entry. Visitors are advised to inform the Deputy Commissioner's Office (08226-223160) or call Helpline No. 1077 if they come across any suspicious persons, movements or objects.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mandya

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Positive cases yesterday	:	130
Total positive cases	:	3,016
Total discharges	:	1,690
Total deaths	:	31
Total active cases	:	1,295

Chamarajanagar

Positive cases yesterday	:	56
Total positive cases	:	1,423
Total discharges	:	979
Total deaths	:	26
Total active cases	:	418

Kodagu

Positive cases yesterday	:	55
Total positive cases	:	826
Total discharges	:	533
Total deaths	:	11
Total active cases	:	282

Hassan

Positive cases yesterday	:	129
Total positive cases	:	4,135
Total discharges	:	2,177
Total deaths	:	115
Total active cases	:	1,843

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Employment Notice No. CMP/02/GAZ/2020

Walk in Interview- For Doctors

South Western Railway, Mysuru Division proposes to engage full time Medical Practitioners (Specialist) on contract basis for South Western Railway, exclusively at Railway Hospital, Mysuru for a period of one year or less or till regular incumbent joins whichever is earlier subject to terms and conditions.

1. Eligibility Criteria / Qualification : Contract Medial Practitioner (Specialist) -The candidate should possess the qualification of MBBS plus MD or DNB (General Medicine) with registration in Medical Council and completed internship with 05 years experience in that profession.

2. Age: i) For open Market Candidate: Should not have completed more than 50 years as on 27.07.2020. **ii) For Retired Railway Doctors / Retired State Government Medical Officers :** Upto the age of 65 years reckoned as on 27.07.2020.

3. No. of Vacancies: GDMO (Specialist) : UR-01, SC/ST/OBC-Nil, Total-01

4. Place At Which Service Required: Railway Hospital, Mysuru. **5. Venue of Interview:** Office of Chief Medical Superintendent (CMS), Railway Hospital, Vontikoppal, Mysuru. **Date & Time Of Interview:** 13.08.2020 (Thursday) from 11.00 hrs onwards.

6. Honorarium: i) For open Market Candidate: Rs. 95,000/- per month. **ii)** For retired Railway Doctors / Retired Govt. Medical officers of state Government : Fixed remuneration of Rs. 46,000/- per month (Subject to the condition).

For details log on: www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

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CORRIGENDUM -1

Name of work : Collection of FIM, Fabrication of P-arm assembly as per drawing, Inspection, and supply of P-arm assembly to BARC, Mysuru.

With reference to the above tender please note the following:

Description in Tender	Indicated in existing Tender document (NIT)	Revised description (To be read as)
Tender Sale Period	From 30/07/2020 to 14/08/2020 1100 Hrs & 1600 Hrs	From 30/07/2020 to 29/08/2020 1100 Hrs & 1600 Hrs
Due date & time for submission of Tender	28/08/2020 at 1500 Hrs	14/09/2020 at 1500 Hrs
Date & time for opening of Tender	15/09/2020 at 1515 Hrs	15/09/2020 at 1515 Hrs

All other conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer
For & on behalf of President of India

WORD OF THE DAY

Homonymous

Pronunciation: hoh-MAH-nuh-mus.

Meaning: Ambiguous; having the same designation; of, relating to, or being homonyms.
Origin: The "ambiguous" sense of homonymous refers mainly to words that have two or more meanings. Logicians and scientists who wanted to refer to (or complain about) such equivocal words chose a name for them based on Latin and Greek, from Greek hom- ("same") and onyma ("name"). In time, English speakers came up with another sense of homonymous referring to two things having the same name (Hawaii, the state, and Hawaii, the island, for example). Next came the use of homonymous to refer to homonyms, such as see and sea. There's also a zoological sense. Sheep and goats whose right horn spirals to the right and left horn spirals to the left are said to be homonymous.
Example: "The Chelyabinsk meteorite became a media celebrity after the videos of its explosion in mid-air, occurring in February 2013 near the homonymous city, went viral on social networks." — Luca Maltagliati

THE ODD WORD

Hadeharia

Constant use of the word "hell".

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Happy as a clam

Meaning: Being happy; feeling delighted.
Origin: There are two versions of this phrase. The full version is "as happy as a clam at high tide [or water]," and then there's the shorter version "as happy as a clam." Why, though, would a clam would be "happy" in the first place? Well, the reason for that is actually highlighted in the full version of this expression.
Basically, clams are most vulnerable when the tides are low because that's the time when people can easily dig them up out of the ground. On the other hand, higher waters make clams far more difficult to find and dig up. Hence, a clam is "happiest" during a high tide, or high waters, because it means they are less likely to be caught and eaten!
The short version of this saying is used by an American poet named John G. Saxe in the Sonnet to a Clam, from 1840:
"Inglorious friend! most confident I am
Thy life is one of very little ease;
Albeit men mock thee with their similes,
And prate of being 'happy as a clam!'

QUOTE BOX

Sanity and happiness are an impossible combination. **—Mark Twain**

RIDDLE THIS

What can you catch, but not throw?

Answer: A cold.

SUDOKU

						8	9	
	6	3	4		8			
	1	8	7					
				4		9	5	
2								3
	5	1		3				
					1	3	7	
			8		2	4	6	
	2	5						

Answer to previous puzzle

4	8	1	7	6	3	2	5	9
3	6	5	2	1	9	7	8	4
2	9	7	5	4	8	6	3	1
1	5	8	6	3	2	9	4	7
7	4	6	8	9	1	5	2	3
9	2	3	4	7	5	8	1	6
5	1	4	9	2	6	3	7	8
6	3	2	1	8	7	4	9	5
8	7	9	3	5	4	1	6	2

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

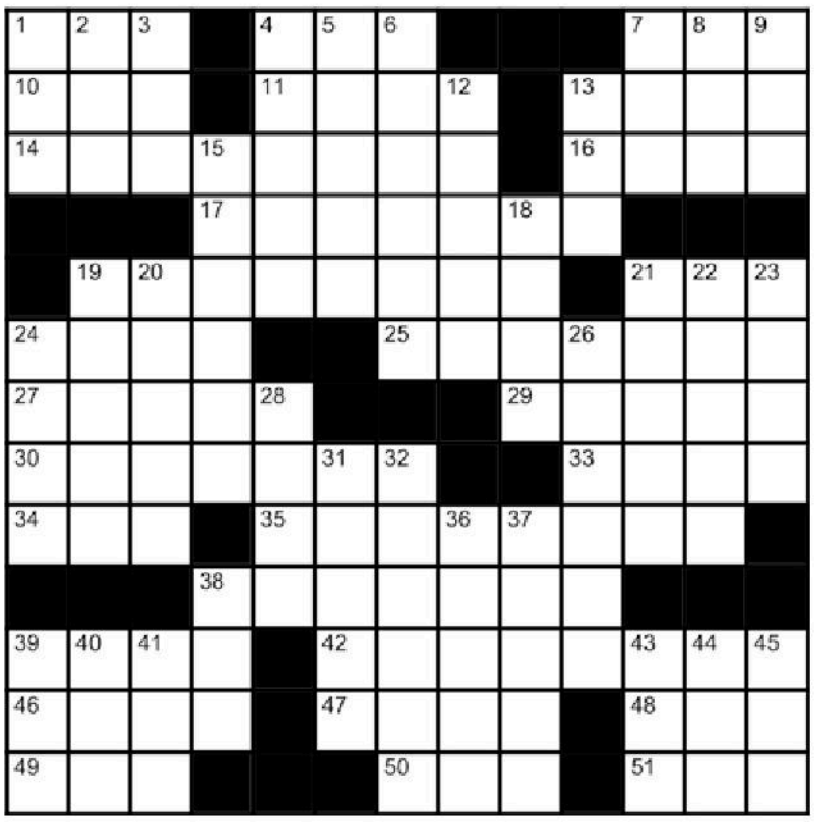
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Body of water
4 Curved bone
7 One hundred forty nine in Roman numerals?
10 Soft food for infants
11 Old time classic movie___ Ara
13 Select
14 Christmas season
16 As similar as two peas in _ ___? (1,3)
17 Chart
19 Updates or refashions
21 Girl's name
24 Sweetheart
25 Relating to earthquakes
27 Could __ __ fat : was on a lean diet? (3,2)
29 A sudden outpouring, as of words
30 Deepens rivers
33 One who makes false statements
34 Kazakhstan formerly: abbr.
35 Monsoon showers?
38 In a succinct or concise manner?
39 As far as (2,2)
42 Inhabitant of an ancient country in West Italy
46 Baby carriage
47 "Dive" for a change for a local goddess
48 English honour, for short
49 Female pig
50 ___ Fort : Delhi landmark?
51 Bill and ___ : whisper sweet nothings?

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

I	M	A	■	■	K	I	M	■	T	S	A	R
S	I	B	■	■	U	N	A	■	A	U	R	A
H	A	S	T	E	N	E	D	■	C	R	A	M
■	■	C	O	N	G	E	N	I	T	A	L	■
A	P	O	R	T	■	D	E	V	I	■	■	■
G	E	N	■	■	■	S	A	L	A	D	■	■
O	R	D	E	R	S	■	S	N	E	E	R	S
■	I	S	L	E	T	■	■	■	R	E	E	■
■	■	■	A	M	I	D	■	K	I	O	W	A
■	O	U	T	O	N	A	L	I	M	B	■	■
A	N	S	I	■	K	N	A	P	P	I	N	G
V	E	T	O	■	E	N	D	■	■	C	A	B
A	S	A	N	■	R	Y	E	■	■	S	L	S

DOWN
1 Engage in espionage
2 ___ de vie, brandy
3 A Programming Lang.
4 Proportion
5 Homer work
6 Emblems or signs; indications
7 Golfing cup contested between the US and Europe
8 Labour assn.
9 Attorney's deg.
12 A type of blackbird
13 Lobed wheel
15 ____ Halley : the famous British astronomer?
18 Unchanged (2,2)
19 Raises; nurses or nurtures?
20 Diner or consumer?
21 Electronic message
22 Most important
23 Maple genus?
24 Couches or cots
26 Makes an opening having divergent sides?
28 A fearsome monster
31 Folded a page corner
32 Female relative
36 Courage or grit
37 Material in the form of a liquid or a gas
38 Boy's name
39 Bull periods
40 Expert, in short
41 Shoot a marble
43 Central Maintenance Comp.
44 Three main blood groups
45 Modern: pref.



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

NU BFPU TPFBTL LF CF LF K VPJUOW JO

KWIUPEJLQ LZKO JO TPFETUPJLQ.

TODAY'S CLUE: L EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: Few people are capable of expressing with equanimity opinions which differ from the prejudices of their social environment. Most people are even incapable of forming such opinions.

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Dried tree posing danger on Rajivnagar Main Road

A dried tree on Rajiv Nagar Main Road (Nimra Masjid Road) near Bawa Medicals is posing danger to the public as a small velocity wind can uproot this dried tree which may fall on moving vehicles and people causing injuries or even death. The residents have urged the authorities concerned to take steps to get the dried tree removed at the earliest.

Plea to control pig menace at Saraswathipuram

The menace of pigs is increasing day-by-day at Saraswathipuram. Pigs are found moving on roads freely causing a lot of inconvenience to the public especially motorists as they come in front of vehicles all of a sudden and two-wheeler riders sometimes unable to control their vehicles, fall down and injure themselves. Authorities concerned are urged to take immediate action and relocate the pigs to city outskirts.

Ramdas performs 'Guddali Puja' for road development and widening works

Mysuru, Aug.14 (PM&DM)- K.R. MLA S.A.Ramdas performed *Guddali Puja* for road widening and development works at Srirampura coming under his Constituency yesterday.

The 1.1 km stretch of road leading from BEML Arch near the last bus stop at Srirampura to Manandavadi Road is being widened and developed at an estimated cost of Rs.2.5 crore, with funding from the Chief Minister's special SFC grant.

Later, speaking to pressperson, Ramdas said that it is vital for maintaining quality in works and it is the responsibility of the local people for ensuring it. He further said that more development works will be taken up in the Constituency soon.

Referring to the measures taken for preventing the spread of COVID-19, the MLA said that the K.R. Constituency Task Force meeting was held yesterday afternoon, where further measures to be taken for making the entire Assembly segment free of the deadly virus were discussed and decisions taken.

Corporator Geetha Yoganand, local leader Girish, PWD Engineer Raju and other officials were present.

MP assures flood victims of appropriate relief

Hunsur, Aug.14 (KK&DM)- With floods causing havoc in Hunsur taluk, MP Pratap Simha has assured the flood victims of immediate and appropriate relief from the Government.

The MP visited Lakshmanateertha river flood affected areas in Hanagod Hobli and other areas of the taluk on Wednesday and heard the flood victims. He also inspected Hanagod-Hunsur Road that was blocked due to floods near Kamagowdanahalli Gate.

He also visited several agricultural fields at Sindenahalli, Hanagod and Abbur where standing Tobacco, Ginger, Ragi, Maize and several other Horticultural crops were destroyed by floods.

Speaking later, Simha said that 300 acres of crops have been destroyed in Hunsur taluk. Also, 9 houses have been completely damaged while 43 are partially damaged, he said and assured that he will co-ordinate with the Central and State Governments for announcing immediate relief.

He further said that completely destroyed homes will get Rs.5 lakh, partially damaged homes Rs.50,000 to Rs.3 lakhs and houses damaged by gushing waters Rs.10,000 as compensation.

Hunsur Tahsildar Basavaraju, TP EO Girish, Assistant Director of Agriculture Rangaswamy and other officials were present.

The MP also visited several flood hit areas in Periyapatna Taluk on Wednesday. At Bylakuppe and Koppa, the MP took the officials to task for failing to provide relief and other facilities for flood affected victims. He directed the officials to take immediate measures for addressing flood issues.

Former MLA H.C. Basavaraj, Tahsildar Shwetha N. Ravindra, Taluk BJP President Prakash Baburao and other officials were present.

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